is a wide street, made centre parks, similar to those on Monument Avenue, the improvements representing an expenditure of several thousand dollars. While the company has sold most of these lots, a number of new sales and transfers having been made recently, they feel elated that the purchasers have something that will steadily enhance in value, and predict that the summer will see many improvements in this beautiful addition of which Richmond will be justly proud.

Ginter Park.

Development of the proper sort is the order of things in Ginter Park. Major Lewis Ginter selected this property years ago as the ideal location for a beautiful high-class suburb and improved it in splendid fashion. He appreciated the value of good sewerage and drainage and instaled a very comprehensive system that insures good health and comfort for all time to come. Then came the network of magnificent avenues, superb water service from deep wells, the planting of miles upon miles of honeysuckle and privet hedges and beautiful shade trees, which to-day have reached a state of development which makes Ginter Park in many respects the most beautiful of all Richmond's residence sections. Wise restrictions as to the character of houses and of their location and excellent transportation facilities have done their part. The proximity of Ginter Park to the various country clubs has also increased its popularity.

As a social centre it is fast forging to the front and taking rank with the most popular city sections.

Nineteen handsome residences have been built and are building within the limits of Ginter Park, and several others are to be started in the near future. More money is being expended in this section for improvements than in all the others combined. In this respect it is surpassed only by the Lee District section.

Values in Ginter Park will undoubtedly go much higher than they now are. Present prices are very attractive from the investor's standpoint, and the property is being bought up steadily by a fine class of people.

Highland Park Activity.

Highland Park, situated on the north edge of Richmond, is feeling the great boom in building which is going on in many parts of the city. Several sales in lots have been made this past week—three on Virginia Avenue to W. E. Turner, who is making plans to build this coming summer, and two on Third Avenue to F. D. Mason.

The Highland Park Company has just given out a contract to Barry & Co. to extend the sewerage system through the north end of the park, to connect with the two new houses just building there.

It is a noticeable fact that the well water is among the finest to be found anywhere in this vicinity, and it is not necessary to dig deeper than twenty feet to find it clear and pure. This is a fact which is very valuable to home-seekers, as pure water is indispensable to good health.

Another fact about the park is the large number of cottage gardens to be found there. Small shrubs and young trees abound everywhere, and many of the porches of the cottages are completely covered with roses, which make a beautiful effect at this season of the year.

A Disclaimer.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—A report having been widely circulated to the effect that in my address to the Beneficent Society of the New England Conservatory of Music I stated that students of slender means were not allowed to enter the conservatory—in fact, were "socially and morally unfit," and "rigorously excluded, in spite of the threats of irate parents," I wish to state, emphatically and explicitly, that I said absolutely nothing of the sort, and that it is past my comprehension how my words could have been so misunderstood and distorted, or how any sane person could for a moment believe such an absurd and ridiculous statement to be true. In fact, in my address the exact opposite is distinctly stated, viz.: "I know that it has been the policy of the Beneficent Society to assist all students who are shown to be worthy, and perhaps, after all, this is a better plan in the end than to encourage only gifted people who may be ungrateful."

The exact language of the paragraph which apparently caused this misunderstanding was as follows:

"In my opinion it is morally dishonest to take money from students who have no ear, no talent and no musical intelligence."

I only regret that all music teachers have not the same standard.

This conservatory has for years assisted its students, not only with tuition, but in some cases with food and clothing, and it welcomes all students of ability without regard to sex, color or condition; but poor students with genius are more welcome than rich ones without it. Any young composer, pianist, organist, violinist or singer who shows evidence of such promise that he is likely to become an artist may receive at this conservatory his entire musical education without paying one cent.

Since this incident has caused a good deal of unfavorable editorial comment (and no wonder), it would seem that any journal with even a rudimentary sense of justice who has thus honored me, would be willing to give this plain statement of the facts the fullest publicity.

Very truly yours,
G. W. CHADWICK,
Director
N. E. Conservatory of Music.
Boston, Mass.

DOING GOOD WORK FOR OUR FARMERS

(Continued from First Page.)

ings can not be lightly overlooked, and the educational value can not be emphasized too strongly. The fact that many doubters came to these meetings and left with new views of their vocation and its possibilities when rationally pursued marks the economic importance of such gatherings which may properly and with justice be called schools of information for the farmer. This is the forum in which he expresses his views, and if they are not in accord with the latest and best information, he is certain to find this out, and so may be saved the enormous waste of both money and energy which is the chief drawback to the American farming to-day. And how else shall the thousand useful truths which have such a potent bearing on successful practice be brought home with all their force to the farmer except through gatherings of this kind.

Important and Noble Function.

The State Farmers' Institute has thus a most important and noble function to perform in the agricultural affairs of the State, and that it has made a good beginning all will testify who have come directly in contact with its work and are capable of speaking positively on the subject. Not only do these meetings educate, but they broaden the perspective of the farmer as well. They lead him to appreciate the necessity of getting out of the old ruts in which he has lingered too long. They teach him to see that there are newer and better ways of doing things; that there is after all a right way, a scientific way, a practical way, which, if pursued, will bring him large rewards for his effort as compared with the meagre existence eked out in his narrow world bounded by errors and prejudice which so little effort has been made to break down in the past.

An organization of this kind also helps the State wonderfully on the outside, letting farmers in other States know that their brothers in Virginia are a live and progressive set of husbandmen, and that they will gladly welcome the stranger to their midst who can bring them useful knowledge. The fact that a State possesses such a force for education and development will be quickly appreciated by those seeking investments, and will help to gather in the thousands of immigrants needed to clear the ten million acres of unoccupied land in the State and reclaim it from its idle and unprofitable condition and make it bring forth some ten and some forty-fold. So the institute becomes useful in many different ways, and not only helps the citizens who come in contact with it, but increases the wealth of the State by attracting investors who seek a location in a mild and equable climate where market facilities are of the best.

Meetings Full of Interest.

The institute has always offered good programs to its patrons, the best speakers from within and without the State being obtained regardless of cost, and this is the policy which will be pursued during the present year. The executive committee now has under advisement plans for the fourth annual gathering which it is expected will be held in Roanoke some time during the month of August, as that seems to be the most convenient time for all the farmers to get away from home. Every one who has the interest and welfare of Virginia and her farmers at heart will make it a point to be present at this gathering and aid by their presence in maintaining and fostering an organization, the sole aim and object of which has been to promote the welfare of the Commonwealth through the development of the unlimited resources of her soils and to preserve for posterity that noble heritage which nature gave to Virginia in her wonderfully diversified soils and their capacity for supplying the needs of the human race in endless variety.

ANDREW N. SOULE,
77 Secretary.

GREAT WHITE CITY AND ITS BUSINESS

(Continued from First Page.)

bazaars running off in every direction, and the whole is a sort of a business Rosamond's bower in which I lose myself again and again in trying to find my way out.

Old Carthage in Tunis.

Before I go on with my description of the bazaars, let us look at their construction. The pillars and stones of old Carthage have been everywhere used. At the sides of each little shop are marble columns, some of which have beautiful capitals. There are hundreds—yes, I venture, thousands—of these columns here to be seen, and, strange to say, the Arabs have painted the snowy market with stripes of red, green and black. Many are in green, and some in bright yellow. Similar columns are to be found in the residence quarters, and it is true that a large part of Mohammedan Tunis has been built from the ruins of that old Punic city.

In the bazaars, each trade has its own quarter. There are long streets, filled with cells, where the Arabs make nothing but shoes, and others in which the shops are devoted to weavers. In some silk thread is sold, and in others only perfumery or groceries. There are also bazaars of coppersmiths, booksellers and tailors.

The Bazaar of the Tailors.

The bazaar of the tailors is not far from the Kasbah. We push our way through the white-gowned, fez-capped, turbaned Mohammedan crowd and take a look at it. We are in a covered street about twelve feet in width, which is paved with Belgian blocks worn smooth by the bare feet and slippers of thousands. It is walled with shops which extend fifteen or twenty feet back on each side.

The average shop is not more than eight feet in width. Its floor is about two feet above the street, and the tailors sit cross-legged upon it before tables eight inches high, upon which they are cutting and sewing. They wear gowns and voluminous trousers. They have fez caps or turbans. Many of them work away with their goods on their knees and their bare feet and bare calves plainly seen. Here at my right is a shop where they are sewing upon a burnoose of the finest white wool for some Arab gentleman, and at my left is a man making a pair of ten-dollar trousers for some fat Jewish lady. Other tailors are working on gorgeous jackets and vests for both men and women. They use silk and gold-embroidered cloths. Indeed, many of the garments are exceedingly costly, as you may see by the richly clad customers who stand in the street outside and bargain for clothes.

At 10 o'clock in the morning there is an auction of second-hand clothing in this tailor street, when gray-bearded men go about holding fine garments high over their heads. They sing out the prices and quality of the goods, and beg the people to buy. I found hundreds so engaged this morning, the crowd being so great that I could hardly make by way through.

The Souk of the Perfumers.

But let us go on to the souk of the perfumers. The word souk is used as a term for the bazaars; and when you ask to be shown the Mohammedan business centre you tell them to take you, not to the bazaars, but to the souks. The Mohammedans are fond of perfumery. Their great prophet once said that there were two things which especially delighted him—one was the society of a beautiful woman, and the other was sweet perfume.

The Mohammedans have some of the best scents of the world. You can buy essence of jasmine, of violet or verbena that is worth its weight in gold; and a quart flask of the attar of roses, sold in this souk, would cost a king's ransom. Some of the perfumery is so valuable that the merchant measures it out drop by drop, counting the drops by means of a bit of cotton which he takes from his ear.

As we enter this bazaar several Arab boys come to us and try to induce us to purchase at certain shops for which they are touting. We select one in which a gray-bearded old Abraham in costly raiment is sitting. He is in a little pen surrounded by bottles and boxes, with a great string of candles hanging down from a pole over his head. There is a bench outside his shop, and we sit down and have a cup of coffee with him before he asks us to buy. The coffee is as black as ink, as sweet as molasses and almost as thick as chocolate. It is made of the beans pulverized by pounding them in a mortar, and is brought in hot from the coals.

After we have drunken he begins to show his perfumes. He takes out a cork and touches it gently to the backs of our hands. The next bottle is tried on the wrist, and the next by pulling up our sleeves to the elbow and pressing the cork upon the forearm. Indeed he stamps us with so many brands that when we leave we are walking perfume shops and the scents are so pungent they last for hours. The Arabs use perfumery not only on their clothes and in their baths, but also in their food and drink. There is an essence of orange flowers which is sold here with tea, and there are other perfumes for various foods.

Among the Shoemakers.

I have spent some time to-day among the shoemakers. There is a long street devoted to their shops, and there were hundreds of men and boys working in it when I saw it to-day. They were cutting out shoes of bright yellow and red leather, and sewing them into shape. The yellow shoes were for men, and the red ones for the women. They were also making many shoes for children. About all the footwear of the Mohammedan world is made thus by hand, and it might be a good idea for some bright American shoemaker to set up a factory here and supply the trade.

The Tunisian cobbler's bench is nothing like that of the American. These cobbler's cut and pound upon a section of a tree like a butcher's block raised upon legs. They do not use hammers, but pound the leather with pieces of brass so molded that they can be easily held in the hand; they are not unlike a brass paper weight.

The leather work of Tunis is famous, and shoes are sold everywhere. A good pair can be bought for seventy-five cents.

Another street near that of the shoemakers is devoted to the saddlers, and others to jewelers, to the sellers of cottons and silks. There are also many bazaars filled with old and new carpets, and many which have fine brass work, and embroidery and furniture inlaid with mother of pearl.

How the Arabs Do Business.

All trading among these Mohammedans is by bargaining. There are no fixed prices, and the merchants always ask more than they expect to take. I usually offer one-half or one-third, and am surprised to find that the dealer often comes after me and gives me the goods. This is especially so with the Jews, who have shops in the souks. They give a commission of five or ten per cent. to the dragoman, and the first thing your guide does when you enter the bazaars is to lead you into one of these shops. He pretends that he works in your interest, but he is really a confederate of the shopkeeper, and gets a rake-off from every sale he brings in. The first day I visited old Tunis I took along a Maltese named Gaouchi, to act as interpreter. He warned me that I must expect the merchants to charge more than they would take, and said that when I saw him draw his handkerchief across his lips I might know the price was too high. The first Jew shop we entered had some magnificent rugs, for each of which the man asked about $100, but Gaouchi's handkerchief remained in his pocket. In the next room I was shown Tunisian silk dresses for which the man wanted $12 apiece, and still there was no sign from Gaouchi. Notwithstanding, I found that I could have bought the rug for one-fifth of the price asked, and I did buy a silk dress for a little over $5.

The souks fairly swarm with boys and men who beg you to come into the shops. They will say they want you not to buy, but only to see, and gesture to show what they mean. They point to their eyes and catch you by the hand, trying to drag you in. I have since learned the words for "go away and get out" in Arabic, and I now repeat them in that language and in French, German and English whenever one of these pests becomes over persistent.

A Great Arabian Trust.

Many of these bazaars are now run by corporations, and there is a great semi-religious trust company that owns and rents out a large part of the shops. This is called the Habous. I think that the Bey of Tunis is connected with it, and also many of the chief sheiks. This institution has been in existence for a long time, and its funds amount to many millions. It has had great sums dedicated to it with the understanding that the interest from them is to go to certain religious or charitable purposes. One rich Mohammedan, for instance, left his money to the Habous in order that it might supply free drinking water to a certain locality. That was a long time ago, and the water still flows. Men sometimes leave fortunes to this trust with instructions that it is to handle them in the interest of their wives and children, and, in short, it does much the same business as our American trust companies.

The Habous has buildings all over Tunis, and owns extensive tracts of land outside the city. It possesses so much property that the French authorities are afraid of it, and they would like to have a safety valve created which shall prevent its money from being turned to improper uses. The Habous officers pretend that they desire nothing so much as an investigation, but when the French made their inquiries last year they could learn nothing. Just now, when there is talk about a holy war throughout the Mohammedan world, the French feel that the Habous might become dangerous, as its wealth could furnish a war fund for the Arabs.

During my wanderings through Tunis I have seen many of the shops owned by this corporation, and to-day I went into the building containing its offices. It is within a stone's throw of the bazaars on the Rue d'Eglise, in the very heart of the old city. It consists of many large rooms surrounding a court walled with marble, and it has so many clerks that it looks like a government department.

In striking contrast with the Arab parts of this city is the new section, in which the French have their residences and chief business houses. This is outside the walls of old Tunis, extending from them down to the harbor. About fifteen years ago the harbor there was a swamp, and as it was thought, fit for nothing. It now contains the finest buildings in Tunis and is worth hundreds of dollars per front foot. They are large hotels, banks and stores upon it. It has wide and well-paved streets, and were it not for the Arabs, Jews and veiled women in the crowds which parade it you might think it a part of Paris, Lyons or Marseilles.

French Tunis is growing rapidly. It already goes far out into the country, one of its best avenues reaching to the Belvedere or municipal park. This is lined with fine houses, and there are other good residence streets.

The main business thoroughfares of the French city are the Avenue de France and the Avenue de la Marine. They contain the chief banks, shops and cafes, and also the Casino and the principal hotels.

French Tunis prides itself on being an up-to-date town. It has electric lights and trolley lines, which now go clear around the old city and reach to some parts of its interior as well. It has several large banks, two or three department stores and a great many restaurants and cafes. The Casino is devoted to vaudeville shows, with a gambling attachment; and during the winter it becomes a little Monte Carlo, patronized by rich natives and tourists. This establishment has seats for something like two thousand spectators.

Its audience-room consists of a pit and boxes, and the people can have coffee, beer or wine served while the actors are playing. At the right of the audience-room is a large parlor, in which several roulette tables are kept going both during and between the acts, and on the left there are rooms for private gambling and public places for rouge et noir. I visited the gambling rooms during the intermissions last night and saw crowds about the tables. The stakes at roulette were from a franc upward, and the tables were well covered with silver. The rouge et noir rooms were deserted, but I understand they are well patronized in the winter, when many tourists are here.

Tunis has also a summer theatre at the Belvedere Park, and the military bands give frequent concerts in the public squares.

On the Stage of Old Carthage.

One of the most interesting theatrical representations in this part of the world was the acting of a play containing Phoenician characters and scenes in a ruined theatre which has been recently excavated on the site of old Carthage. This occurred last year, and another play of a similar nature is now being written for a well-known actress of Paris, whose husband is famous as the translator of a new eleven-volume French edition of the "Arabian Nights." This play will be brought to Tunis and will be acted out in the open, in the same surroundings and upon the same site where the plays of Carthage were acted when it was the capital of Africa and a rival of imperial Rome. The play of last year has since been taken to Paris and successfully put upon the stage there. The heroine of the new play takes the part of a beautiful woman whose statue was found in the ruins and is now in the museum of Carthage.

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